

**Borough of New Morgan
Berks County, Pennsylvania**

Borough Council
Regular Meeting Minutes

January 6th, 2020

The New Morgan Borough Reorganization meeting was advertised for Monday, January 6th, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the offices of the Borough of New Morgan, 200 Bethlehem Drive, Suite 104, Morgantown, PA.

Christopher Weber and Connie Brown-Weber were not in attendance due to confusion on date of meeting. Contacted Borough Solicitor who informed us the meeting should still be held with notary Margie Bishop presiding over meeting for election of officers to be completed.

The Certificate of Elections for the newly Elected Council Member was presented to the Secretary before the official was sworn into office.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Margie Bishop, Notary at 7:34 p.m.

Swearing In Of Newly Elected Officer: Notary Margie Bishop swore into office newly elected official Doreen Smith who signed the Oath of Office document and returned it to the Secretary.

Election of Officers: Margie Bishop, Notary, called for nominations for President of Council. Doreen Smith nominated Tressie Marroon-Bailey. The vote was unanimous. Tressie accepted the nomination.

AT THIS TIME THE MEETING WAS TURNED OVER TO THE BOROUGH COUNCIL PRESIDENT. Tressie Marroon-Bailey called the meeting to order at 7:37.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Tressie Marroon-Bailey, President.

Guests: Beth Vopper, Southern Berks Land Company; William Bailey, Stephen Caramenico and Ashlyn Whittingham, residents.

Appointment of Secretary - The current Secretary is Margie Bishop. Doreen Smith made a motion to reappoint Margie Bishop as Secretary, Tressie Marroon-Bailey seconded it. The vote was unanimous. Ms. Bishop accepted the position.

Appointment of Treasurer – The current Treasurer is Margie Bishop. Doreen Smith made a motion to reappoint Margie Bishop as Treasurer, Tressie Marroon-Bailey seconded it. The vote was unanimous. Ms. Bishop accepted the position.

Appointment of Borough Solicitor – The current Borough Solicitor is Georgeadis||Setley. Doreen Smith made a motion to reappoint Georgeadis||Setley as Borough Solicitor. Tressie Marroon-Bailey seconded it. The vote was unanimous.

Appointment of Borough Engineer – The current Borough Engineer is Woodrow & Associates. Doreen Smith made a motion to reappoint Woodrow & Associates as Borough Engineer. Tressie Marroon-Bailey seconded it. The vote was unanimous.

Appointment of Sewage Engineer – The current Sewage Engineer is Ebert Engineering, Inc. Doreen Smith made a motion to reappoint Ebert Engineering as Sewage Engineer. Tressie Marroon-Bailey seconded it. The vote was unanimous.

**Borough of New Morgan
Berks County, Pennsylvania**

Appointment of Sewage Enforcement Officer – The current SEO is Ebert Engineering, Inc. Doreen Smith made a motion to reappoint Ebert Engineering as Sewage Enforcement Officer. Tressie Marroon-Bailey seconded it. The vote was unanimous.

Appointment of Borough Code Officer – The current BCO is Technicon. Doreen Smith made a motion to reappoint Technicon as BCO. Tressie Marroon-Bailey seconded it. The vote was unanimous.

Appointment of Borough Planner – This position is currently vacant. Doreen Smith made a motion to reappoint this position vacant. Tressie Marroon-Bailey seconded it. The vote was unanimous.

Vacancy Board – This position of Chairperson is currently vacant. Tressie Marroon-Bailey nominated Ashlyn Whittingham for Chairperson of the board. Ashlyn accepted the nomination. Doreen Smith made a motion to appoint Ashlyn as Chairperson. Tressie Marroon-Bailey seconded it. The vote was unanimous.

Appointments to the New Morgan Municipal Authority:

Tressie Marroon-Bailey recommended reappointing the same members to the Municipal Authority for 2020 and reappointing Margie Bishop as Executive Director. Doreen Smith made a motion to appoint, seconded by Tressie Marroon-Bailey. The vote was unanimous.

Tressie Marroon-Bailey nominated Ashlyn Whittingham for the position of member, vacated by Wendy Farris who moved out of the borough. Ashlyn accepted the nomination. Doreen Smith made a motion to appoint Ashlyn to the Municipal Authority. Tressie Marroon-Bailey seconded it. The vote was unanimous.

Appointments to the New Morgan Industrial Development Authority:

Tressie Marroon-Bailey recommended reappointing the same members to the Industrial Development Authority for 2020 and reappointing Margie Bishop as Executive Director. Doreen Smith made a motion to appoint, seconded by Tressie Marroon-Bailey. The vote was unanimous.

Appointments to the New Morgan Utility Authority:

Tressie Marroon-Bailey recommended reappointing the same members to the Utility Authority for 2020 and reappointing Margie Bishop as Executive Director. Doreen Smith made a motion to appoint, seconded by Tressie Marroon-Bailey. The vote was unanimous.

Appointments to the New Morgan Zoning Hearing Board:

The current board has vacancies due to some members moving out of borough. Tressie Marroon-Bailey recommended leaving the vacancies for 2020 until there is a need. Doreen Smith made a motion to leave vacant, seconded by Tressie Marroon-Bailey. The vote was unanimous.

Tax Collectors:

Borough Council considered approval of Resolution No. 1-2020 appointing Berkheimer of Bangor, Pennsylvania as real estate tax collector. This resolution removes Carolyn Williams from the appointment of authorized New Morgan Borough representative and appoints Margie Bishop as the authorized representative. Doreen Smith made a motion to approve the resolution. Tressie Marroon-Bailey seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

Borough Council will consider reaffirming Keystone Collections as income tax collector. Doreen Smith made a motion to reaffirm Keystone as income tax collector. Tressie Marroon-Bailey seconded it. The vote was unanimous.

Borough Council will consider reaffirming Resolution No. 02-2018 appointing voting delegates for Chester County Tax Collection Committee filled by Margie Bishop and Tressie Marroon-Bailey, respectively. Doreen Smith made a motion to reaffirm Resolution 02-2018. Tressie Marroon-Bailey seconded it. The vote was unanimous.

**Borough of New Morgan
Berks County, Pennsylvania**

Appointment of Right to Know Officer – The current Right to Know Officer is Margie Bishop. Doreen Smith motioned to approve the reappointment of Margie Bishop as Right to Know Officer. Tressie M. Marroon seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

Robert’s Rules of Order and the Sunshine Act - Borough Council will consider reaffirming stating the following: “The Borough Council of New Morgan Borough will follow Robert’s Rules of Order for the conduct of its meetings, except in those instances when Robert’s Rules are inconsistent with the laws and Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Borough Council further resolves to comply with all provisions of Pennsylvania’s Open Meetings Act, also known as the Sunshine Act.” Doreen Smith motioned to approve reaffirming the Sunshine Act as stated. Tressie M. Marroon seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

Public Comment: None

Minutes: Doreen Smith motioned to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Tressie M. Marroon seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

Correspondence: Informed Council of the following: Meeting dates and the 2020 budgets were advertised as required by law; the bid thresholds for 2020 are as follows – Less than \$11,300 are exempt, \$11,300 to \$21,000 require 3 quotes and more than \$21,000 require a bid. Also informed council we received a letter from the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency that they have sent a letter of endorsement to Governor Tom Wolf for approval. Bill should receive correspondence in the near future regarding the official appointment for EMC for the borough. Lastly, informed council we received notification that joining the Countywide Board of Appeals for the Act 45 now has a cost associated with it of \$200 per/year.

The following reports were submitted to Borough Council:

Treasurer: November Treasurer Reports were presented to Council.

Fire Department: The Twin Valley Fire Department monthly report was presented to Council.

Doreen Smith motioned to approve the reports as given and Tressie M. Marroon seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

Business:

- A. Council will consider readopting the Office Policy regarding paid time off and employee benefits. Doreen Smith motioned to approve, Tressie M. Marroon second the motion. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.
- B. Council will consider reaffirming Resolution 01-2018 Establishing a Policy for Public Comment at Borough Council Meetings. Doreen Smith motioned to approve reaffirming Resolution 01-2018, Tressie M. Marroon second the motion. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.
- C. Council will consider approving the NMB year-end 2019 payroll. Doreen Smith motioned to approve, Tressie M. Marroon second the motion. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.
- D. Council will consider reaffirming select check signing authorities for the various NMB bank accounts, which currently are Margie Bishop and Tressie Marroon-Bailey. Doreen Smith motioned to approve reaffirming, Tressie M. Marroon second the motion. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

**Borough of New Morgan
Berks County, Pennsylvania**

- E. Council will consider reaffirming the existing rate schedules for water and sewer as presented by Ebert Engineering and permit costs as presented by Technicon. Doreen Smith motioned to approve reaffirming, Tressie M. Marroon second the motion. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.
- F. Council acknowledged that Doreen Smith, member of Borough Council, is disclosing to Council and all who are attending the meeting, that she is employed by LV Real Estate Advisors which is owned by Beth Vopper, President of the General Partner of Southern Berks Land Company (“SBLC”), the largest landowner in the Borough. Ms. Smith will not participate in any discussions of Council relating to SBLC and will abstain from any vote on any matter affecting SBLC.

The next Regular Meeting of the New Morgan Borough will be held on Monday, February 10th, 2020 at 7:00 pm. following Planning Committee meeting.

Adjourn: Doreen Smith motioned to adjourn the meeting and Tressie M. Marroon seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Margie Bishop, Borough Manager/Secretary/Treasurer